

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP 2004/002929

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int.Cl. G02B1/11, B32B7/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl. G02B1/11, B32B7/02

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  
 Japanese Utility Model Gazette 1922-1996, Japanese Publication of Unexamined Utility Model Applications 1971-2004, Japanese Registered Utility Model Gazette 1994-2004, Japanese Gazette Containing the Utility Model 1996-2004

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	JP 2000-204301 A (CATALYST&CHEMICAL IND.CO.,LTD.) 2000.07.05, claim 1, [0001], [0054], [0066] and [0116], (Family:none)	1-13
Y	JP 63-225532 A (SEIKO EPSON CORPORATION) 1988.09.20, claim 1 and lines 1-4, lower column, page 5, (Family:none)	1-13
Y	EP 1089093 A2 (FUJI PHOTO FILM CO.,LTD.) 2001.04.04, [0033], [0076], [0078], [0082] and [0093] & JP 2001-166104 A, [0005], [0026], [0027], [0029] and [0033]	5-13

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&amp;" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

26.05.2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

08.6.2004

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 1077236 A1 (NISSAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES LTD.) 2001.02.21, claim 9, claim 11	14-18
X	& JP 2001-123115 A, claim 1, claim 3, [0009] and [0029]	19-26
Y	US 2002/0018886 A1 (FUJI PHOTO FILM CO., LTD.) 2002.02.14, [0100]-[0102], [0189] and Examples & JP 2001-310423 A, [0004], [0009], [0021] and Examples	14-18
Y	JP 2002-302521 A (HYMO CO., LTD.) 2002.10.18, [0022], (Family:none)	15-18
A	JP 7-281023 A (MITSUBISHI MATERIALS CORPORATION) 1995.10.27, full text, all drawings, (Family:none)	14-26

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**Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

**Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:  
**See extra sheet of Continuation of Box No. III**

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

☐

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

☒

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Continuation of Box No.III of continuation of first Sheet(2).

A common subjected matter of claims 1 and 14 is "at least one metal element, in which the oxide of the at least one metal element has a refractive index of 1.95 or more"

However, as a result of investigation, since this common subjected matter is disclosed in JP 2000-204301 A (CATALYST & CHEMICALS IND. CO., LTD.), 2000.07.25, it appears not to be new.

As a result, since "at least one metal element, in which the oxide of the at least one metal element has a refractive index of 1.95 or more" does not go beyond the region of prior art, this common subjected matter is not the special technical feature in the meaning of 2nd-sentence of the PCT rule 13.2.

Accordingly, the special technical feature of claim 1 relates to a point that "the composite oxide is doped with at least one metal ion selected from the group consisting of Co ion, Zr ion and Al ion" while the special technical feature of claim 14 relates to "fine particles of a high refractive index composite oxide, in which the fine particles of a high refractive index composite oxide contains a bismuth element". Hence, there is no technical relationship among those inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding technical features. Thus, these groups of inventions are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept.

Therefore, claims 1 and 14 do not satisfy the requirement of unity of invention.